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level of binding in the presence of the candidate compound than in its absence indicates that the candidate compound competes with parathyroid hormone for binding to the receptor.

72
42. (Amended) The method of claim 40, wherein the sequence of the polypeptide is identical to the sequence of a fragment of a naturally occurring parathyroid hormone receptor.

43. (Amended) The method of claim 40, wherein the sequence of the polypeptide is identical to the sequence of a fragment of a naturally occurring human parathyroid hormone receptor.

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57. (Amended) The method of claim 40, wherein said complete amino acid sequence of the parathyroid hormone receptor in (a)(i) consists of SEQ ID NO:21.

Add new claims 72 and 73 as follows:

-- 72. The method of claim 40, wherein the complete amino acid sequence of the parathyroid hormone receptor in (a)(i) consists of SEQ ID NO:21 with at least one conservative amino acid substitution.

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73. A method for identifying a compound that inhibits binding of a parathyroid hormone to a parathyroid hormone receptor by competitively binding to the parathyroid hormone receptor, the method comprising:

(a) providing a recombinant polypeptide that: (i) comprises a fragment of a parathyroid hormone receptor, and (ii) binds to parathyroid hormone;

(b) contacting the polypeptide with a parathyroid hormone in the presence of a candidate compound; and

(c) comparing the level of binding of the polypeptide to the parathyroid hormone in the presence of the candidate compound with the level of binding of the polypeptide to

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74 the parathyroid hormone in the absence of the candidate compound, wherein a lower level of binding in the presence of the candidate compound than in its absence indicates that the candidate compound competes with parathyroid hormone for binding to the receptor. --
